

## Message Text

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43

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 /012 W  
----- 088455

R 021313Z MAR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8086  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2052

DEPT FOR SY/FO AND SY/T; LUSAKA FOR PSO; ADDIS FOR RTC

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED USE OF LEXAN - AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

REF: LUSAKA 0476

1. REFTEL ADVISES THAT RSO CONCURS WITH SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR AMEMBASSY LUSAKA. PARA 3 POINTS OUT THAT DISCUSSIONS HELD WITH PSO REGARDING EXTENSIVE USE OF 1/1" LEXAN FOR AMERICAN OCCUPIED OFFICES. RSO POINTED OUT THAT STOPPING POWER OF LEXAN IS LIMITED TO SMALL ARMS, I.E. HANDGUNS AND POST IS NOT TO ASSUME THAT PROPOSED INSTALLATION WILL BE ADEQUATELY EFFECTIVE AGAINST SHOULDER WEAPONS. WHILE HAND GUNS MIGHT BE UTILIZED IN CHANCERY INTERIOR AND AGAINST GROUND (FIRST FLOOR OFFICES, BRITISH), IT IS MORE PROBABLE THAT SHOULDER WEAPONS WILL BE USED AGAINST FIRST FLOOR (SECOND FLOOR) OFFICES.

2. IN RESEARCHING STOPPING POWER OF LEXAN THE FOLLOWING DATA WAS GLEENED FROM CA 7405 DATED 12/11/75-THE EFFECTIVENESS OF 1/1" LEXAN, SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED BY POST IS LIMITED TO .38 CALIBER AND .45 CALIBER WITH VELOCITIES OF 855 AND 820 F/S RESPECTIVELY. CA STATES THAT 1/2" LEXAN WILL NOT BE EFFECTIVE AGAINST 9MM AT BETWEEN 1120 AND  
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1312 F/S OR 7.62MM (2330 F/S) UTILIZED IN AK .47

ASSAULT RIFLE. POST SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR UNDER-  
STANDING OF WHAT 1/2" LEXAN IS EFFECTIVE AGAINST  
AND POTENTIAL LOCAL THREAT.

3. RSO CONCURS IN PRINCIPLE WITH BASIC PROPOSALS  
MADE BY POST BUT WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR LIMITATIONS  
OF 1/2" LEXAN. IT MIGHT BE NOTED, HOWEVER, CA'S  
DATA ON LEXAN EFFECTIVENESS PRESUMABLY TESTED  
UNDER MAXIMUM PENETRATING CONDITIONS. SUCH  
THINGS AS DISTANCE AND ANGLE OF FIRE MAY INCREASE  
THE RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF LEXAN. RSO AGREES  
WITH POST OBJECTION TO USE OF BRICKWORK AND MYLAR/  
CURTAIN ARRANGEMENT, BUT CONCERNED WITH POSSIBLE  
POST MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING EFFECTIVENESS OF 1/2"  
LEXAN.

4. NEW SUBJECT: FOR SY/T-REQUEST INFO  
REGARDING INSTALLATION OF TRANSPARENT ARMOR,  
SPECIFICALLY LEXAN. IS IT NECESSARY TO INSTALL  
LEXAN WITHIN SECURE FRAME IN ORDER TO PRESERVE ITS  
EFFECTIVENESS OR MAY IT BE SIMPLY MOUNTED ONTO  
EXISTING GLASS BY USE OF SCREWS WITH NO OTHER  
SUPPORT.  
MARSHALL

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** ASEC  
**To:** STATE LUSAKA  
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